

## CRISIS REACHED IN PARTY AFFAIRS

Former Senator Thomas Demands, Convention to Prevent Disruption.

### TAKES DANIEL TO TASK

Believes Him Untrue to Democracy in Voting for Protection.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)  
LYNCHBURG, VA., May 26.—Former Senator Thomas, of this city, who, while a member of the Virginia Senate several years ago, produced a profound sensation in Virginia by opposing Major John W. Daniel for the Senate, tonight gave out an interview in which he takes the senior Virginia Senator to task for voting for protection, and he calls upon the Democrats of the State to demand a State convention to prevent the disruption of the Democratic party in this State.

Although Senator Thomas does not say so in terms, it seems apparent that, under existing circumstances, he would not go into the primary. In order that his vote would not be an endorsement of what he believes to be diametrically opposed to sound Democratic doctrines.

There seems to be little doubt but that the statement will be the cause of a political sensation in Virginia.

**Crisis Reached.**  
The statement follows:  
"A crisis has been reached in the affairs of the Democratic party of the State.

"The public was advised some time since of the positions which different Congressmen were taking for protection of their local interests, but it was hardly prepared for the bold and frank pronouncement in favor of the principles of protection which was made a few days ago by Senator Daniel in advocating a high duty on quebracho, a South American product. In order to afford protection to bark extracts made in this country. In effect, the senior Senator commits himself to the Republican doctrine of protection of American industries and plants himself squarely along the side of Aldrich, Cannon and other leading lights of the stalwart and stand-pat wing of the Republican party. He turns his back upon the fundamental doctrine of equal rights to all and special privileges to none, and subscribes to the doctrine that in cases where it is needed, protection is not only permissible, but desirable. Consequently, the government under such circumstances is justified in lending its taxing power for the purpose of diverting the money of those who use leather in any form, into the pockets of those who operate extract works. He pleads that the great consuming public may be misled in order that the twenty-three extract factories may make still more money than they are now making. He seems indifferent to the fact that the owners of these factories already have more of this world's goods than the average man has, and that the price regardless of the tariff, but when the Democratic party becomes willing to subscribe to the basic principle upon which protection rests, namely: that the government has a right to pass laws for the purpose of taking that which belongs to many in order to give it to a favored class, it would seem that it might as well take bag and baggage and go over to the Republican camp and be done with it.

"The time has come for the rank and file, who still believe in a government based upon equal rights and one which should stand for equality and uniformity, should call a halt and demand to know whether they are being led.

**A Party Problem.**  
"The Democratic party this year names a successor to the senior Senator, who will represent it in the United States Senate for the next term. If it names the incumbent, the party will thereby give an official sanction to the position he has taken.  
"In matters of policy it is the duty of Democrats to subordinate their private opinions to that of their party, but in matters of elementary principle the party forfeits its right to allegiance when it departs from those well-recognized fundamentals upon which all members of the party are supposed to be agreed.

"Nationally, the party seems to be hopelessly shattered, and now if the party of the State is to be required to endorse by construction doctrines and dogmas to which it has always been diametrically opposed, it would seem that the only alternative left is dissolution.

"Will Democrats who are unwilling to enter into this unholy alliance with



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the trust-controlled wing of the Republican party, he willing to participate in the Democratic primary and commit themselves to the Republican doctrine of protection?

"We have reached the parting of the ways and I earnestly urge the Democrats of the State to call a convention for the purpose of dealing with the situation in order to avoid (if possible) what now appears to be an inevitable disruption if something is not done to avert it."

### WINS THE PRIZE.

Miss Gordon's "A Colonial Home," Selected by Colonial Dames.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)  
STAUNTON, VA., May 26.—Miss Margaret Douglas Gordon, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. Gordon, lawyer and poet, a student at Stuart Hall, has won the Colonial Dames prize for Virginia for the best essay on some phase of colonial life in Virginia. Her subject was "A Colonial Home." The prize is \$40 in gold.

The competition was restricted to members of advanced classes in Holston Institute, Leewood Seminary, Mary Baldwin Seminary, Randolph-Macon Institute, Southern Female College, Miss Ellett's School for Girls and Stuart Hall.

### FIRES NEAR WARRENTON.

Residence and Engine House Fall Prey to Flames.  
(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)  
WARRENTON, ORE., May 26.—The residence of Jas. Carter, about five miles from Warrenton, was destroyed by fire in order to give it to a favored class, it would seem that it might as well take bag and baggage and go over to the Republican camp and be done with it.

"The time has come for the rank and file, who still believe in a government based upon equal rights and one which should stand for equality and uniformity, should call a halt and demand to know whether they are being led.

### LEVY WINS MEDAL.

Honor Goes to Him Over Experienced Speakers.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)  
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA., May 26.—Maxwell Lewis Levy, a young student who graduated from the Petersburg High School last year, and who is in his first year at the University of Virginia, won the debate medal in the Washington Literary Society last night.

Levy won out over DeRoy Ransom, Ponville, of Burlington, N. C., who has twice represented Virginia in oratory and once in debate, and over Mr. Johnston, who is the winning debating team this year. The medal awarded Mr. Levy cost \$25. He will now represent the Washington Society in the debate to be held Tuesday night, June 15, for the board of visitors' medal. The Jefferson Society will select its contestant for the debate next Friday night.

### Church Dedication.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)  
FREDERICKSBURG, VA., May 26.—The Kilmaronock M. E. Church, South, will be dedicated on Sunday, May 30. Rev. W. G. Parker, of Norfolk, will preach the sermon at 11 o'clock. Rev. Porter Hardy will preach at 2 o'clock and Rev. R. F. Gayle at 8 o'clock.

## NO INSANITY IN PEEBLES' FAMILY

State Preparing to Meet That Line of Defense When Trial Is Called.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

NORFOLK, VA., May 26.—There is no insanity in the family of Eugene Peebles, held here for the murder of his wife, according to the information secured by Commonwealth's Attorney Tilton from the Police Department of Augusta, Ga. The chief of police of Augusta, replying to an inquiry from Mr. Tilton, declares that as far as he can learn there is no insanity in the family.

Mr. Tilton is preparing in advance to meet such a defense when Peebles' case goes on trial for murder. He believes it is the only successful defense that can be offered for the alleged crime of the young man.

Charles F. Peebles, the brother of the alleged murderer, is in the city in consultation with the prisoner, but declines to state who will be employed to defend his brother or to intimate what the defense will be. He admits, however, that the family will do everything possible for the young man, and that lawyers will be called to represent him at the proper time.

Henry Brizell and W. A. Chalker, brother and uncle of the dead woman, have also been here. They returned to Augusta to-day, accompanied by Mrs. Lipps and the two children of the murdered woman, who will accompany and raise the two children at his home in Augusta.

There is no improvement in the physical condition of Peebles, who is still in the jail hospital. He refuses all to not talk and seems greatly cast down.

## SEEKS SURCEASE OF HER TROUBLES

Despondent on Account of Ill Health, Mrs. Naumann Drowns Herself.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

SALUDA, VA., May 26.—Mrs. Cilinda Naumann, wife of C. E. Naumann, committed suicide last night by drowning in the Planktank River at her home at Turkey Ferry, near here. Ill-health was the cause. Nothing was known of the tragedy until her husband awoke this morning, missing her from her bed. Her body was found about noon today in the river not far from her home.

Mrs. Naumann was thirty-five years old. She is survived by her husband and two children. Her father, Z. R. Coates, of this county; two sons and two brothers—Mrs. H. L. Travis and Mrs. Alton, of Newport News; Rufus Coates, of North Carolina, and Frank Coates, of this place. The funeral will take place from the home Friday at 11 o'clock, and her body interred at Christ Church cemetery.

### HAT CATCHES FIRE.

Mrs. Minnie Nulton Has Narrow Escape from Serious Injury.  
(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)  
WINCHESTER, VA., May 26.—Mrs. Minnie Nulton, wife of Lieutenant-Commander Louis McCoy Nulton, executive officer of the battleship Wisconsin, had a narrow escape from being fatally burned at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Evans, when her hat caught fire from a gas jet while removing her veil to-day. She fell over on the floor while endeavoring to smother the flames and in falling she attracted the attention of her parents, downstairs, who ran up and saved her life.

### Recovers Damages.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)  
CHESTERFIELD, C. H., VA., May 26.—In the Circuit Court to-day, W. R. Price recovered \$225 from the Seaboard Air Line Railway for fire damages to property in Dale District. This trial ends the jury cases of the term, and to-morrow Judge Watson will adjourn court here, going to Amelia county to hold a special term.

### Murder Cases Continued.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)  
BRISTOL, VA., May 26.—The case of Alfred Johnson, colored, charged with having robbed and murdered George McSmith, of Bristol, and the case of Willie Dykes and Emma Donkin, charged with having murdered the husband of the latter, were continued on account of the absence of material witnesses.

## SENSATION SPRUNG IN MURDER TRIAL

Engineer Tells of Having Seen Body Early in the Afternoon.

### BLOW TO PROSECUTION

Juror Faints When Negro Describes How Chicago Artist Was Killed.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)  
ALEXANDRIA, VA., May 26.—A realistic picture of the murder of Walter F. Schultz, the Chicago artist, was portrayed late this afternoon in the case of Calvin Johnson, one of the four negroes charged with the murder of Schultz, when the jury viewed the scene, going over the entire ground traversed by the four negroes on the night of the tragedy.

The jury was accompanied by Smith, who turned State's evidence, and Johnson. Judge Bailey accompanied the jury and a crowd of 500 people followed. The fences were gone through and the field traversed, which Schultz is said to have traversed on the night of his death. A spot marked by an improvised cross was the place where the jury circled around and where Smith, standing opposite Johnson, described in detail the grisly telling of how Dorsey stabbed Schultz and Johnson pulled a cloth over Schultz's mouth to muffle the sound. Never once did he falter.

The jurors then stood on the railroad embankment, 150 yards away, and had a man lie down. From the embankment they could readily discern his form. While this was being done, one of the jurors, John W. Riley, fell in the open field in a faint. After some time he was resuscitated.

### Creates Excitement.

The affair created immense excitement. The defense sprang a sensation this afternoon when Edward P. Purvis, a Southern Railway conductor, of Nelson county, testified to seeing the body of a man in the field where Schultz's body was found at 3 o'clock the afternoon of March 6. He called the attention of his flagman to it at the time and both could see distinctly, although they were 150 yards away. They failed, however, to notify the police. He admitted that he gave it no further thought.

This testimony came as a distinct surprise to the prosecution, which is contending that the testimony of Smith that the murder was not committed until between the hours of 7 and 8 o'clock that night. It was for this reason that an exhibition of a man lying in the position in which Schultz's body was found was viewed from the track, which clearly proved Purvis's testimony in regard to seeing that distance was correct.

The testimony of Purvis has set people to guessing, and unless the prosecution disproves it, it will be a hard matter to secure a conviction. The trial will probably be concluded to-morrow.

### YOUNG FARMER DROWNS.

Seized with Cramps, He Perishes in Sight of Companions.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)  
MARTINSVILLE, VA., May 26.—Gret Winstead, a young farmer living a few miles west of here, was drowned yesterday afternoon while sailing with two companions in Spanish River, near Edgewood, this county. The water was not much over waist deep, but Winstead, who was a good swimmer, was seized with cramp in his legs and drifted away from his companions, who did not realize his danger until too late to go to his assistance. The river is being dragged for the body. Winstead leaves a wife and several small children.

### CRUSHED TO DEATH.

W. W. Ryan Thrown Under Engine and Killed.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)  
HARRISONBURG, VA., May 26.—W. W. Ryan, a VA. Marine, who resided near McGaheysville, this county, was run over yesterday by a traction engine and died one hour later. He was running the engine and stopped on a dead level without cutting off his power. He turned the fly wheel by hand and was thrown under the wheels, the big wheel passing over his body and crushing his hips and body to a pulp and breaking one of his arms. He leaves a wife and three children.

### Successful Revival.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)  
URBANA, VA., May 26.—Rev. R. D. Garland, of the State Mission Board, has just closed one of the most successful revivals ever held in this place. At least thirty-five persons professed conversion.

### Gets Three Years.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)  
BRISTOL, VA., May 26.—Rev. R. D. Hamilton, a negro, who recently broke and robbed a Bristol clothing store, was sentenced to three years in the penitentiary at the Circuit Court at Blountville to-day.

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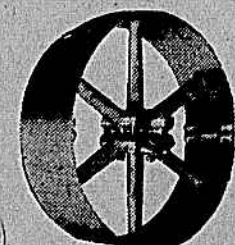
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## DAMAGE IS DONE BY CLOUDBURST

Three Miles of Railway Track Washed Away and Bridges Destroyed.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

BLACKSBURG, VA., May 26.—Over two miles of track of the Virginia Anthracite Railway was washed out, bridges were damaged and the Merriam mines flooded by a cloudburst this afternoon. Officials of the road say that it will be at least five days before the track can be put in shape for traffic. Meanwhile, all mail and passenger service between Blacksburg and Christiansburg must be carried on by a hack line.

The cloudburst extended over three miles between these two places. An early report indicates much damage to crops by high water, many of the county telephone lines are down, and the storm in the town was the heaviest for years.

### SURRENDERS HERSELF.

Mrs. Johnson Now in Jail Charged With Murder.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)  
Spartanburg, S. C., May 26.—This afternoon Mrs. Cassie Johnson, accompanied by her husband, came to Spartanburg and surrendered herself into the hands of Sheriff J. R. Boaz, who had a warrant for her arrest, charging her with aiding and abetting William Hayden in the murder of his wife. By agreement of counsel the preliminary hearing was set for Friday, May 28. Commonwealth's Attorney R. E. Woodwine will appear for the Commonwealth and J. M. Hooker and S. A. Thompson will represent the defense. About forty witnesses have been summoned.

### SENTENCE COMMUTED.

Scotfield for Prisoner's Death Was Being Executed.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)  
WINSTON-SALEM, N. C., May 26.—Sheriff Ziglar was having the scaffold erected when a message came from Raleigh this afternoon saying that Governor Kitchin had commuted the death sentence of Charles Foderill to life imprisonment. Foderill was to have been executed in jail here Friday for killing his wife.

### FINALS AT HORNER.

The Week Has Been Replete With Exciting Features.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)  
OXFORD, N. C., May 26.—The Horner School commencement exercises Tuesday night were attended by large numbers of visitors. The declaimers

medal was won by Henry Callis, of Oxford. Baseball was played Wednesday morning by Old Horner boys and cadets, the score being 9 to 6 in favor of the Old Horner boys.

The alumni association met in the opera-house Wednesday afternoon, presided over by Dr. N. M. Ferebee. The opening prayer was delivered by Bishop Horner, and the address of welcome by General B. S. Royser. Dr. E. T. White introduced the orator, Hon. Frank Winston.

The banquet was held to-night in the auditorium of the barracks. Dr. B. K. Hayes was toastmaster.

### Case Is Compromised.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)  
DURHAM, N. C., May 26.—The Edwards-Sowell case, which created such a sensation here a few weeks ago, in which two families were involved, and resulted in H. E. Edwards suing A. J. Sowell for \$10,000 for alienating the affections of the former's wife, was compromised yesterday afternoon and passed off the court docket. Sowell, who had been in jail, was given his freedom.

### Will Build Electric Plant.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)  
WINSTON-SALEM, N. C., May 26.—The Mayor and commissioners of Kernersville signed a franchise this afternoon for the organization of the Kernersville Light and Improvement Company, which will establish an electric light plant in the town at once.

The Lamp Fish Box Company's plant here was sold to-day to J. E. Shelton, the consideration being \$20,000.

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